

## On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

Men's Wants.

"Man wants but little here below"—An adage we have met. But, still, we have not found it so. For nearly all the men we know want all that they can get.

"Man wants but little here below." Yet adds unto his store; He loves to see his fortune grow; It doesn't matter how much dough He has, he longs for more.

Nowhere.

Where can I find, O tell me right, A woman's skirt That's not too tight?—BUNK.

Where can I find, In vain I've prayed, A pumpkin pie Like mother made?—H. T.

Where can I find, O prithvi, tell, A baby who forgets to yell?—T. D. E.

Where can I find The wives who sit And do not gossip Just a bit?—OLD TIMER.

Where can I find A taxi bloke Whom I can hire And not go broke?—HANK.

Where can I find A college lad Who does not know a J. W. More than his dad?—J. W.

Entered January 27, 1906, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1912.

## SUSTAINED BY THE FACTS.

The total vote in Virginia for President on November 5 was 136,596.

The total vote for members of Congress was 134,832.

The total vote on the constitutional amendment relating to changes in the form of municipal government was 76,275, or 69.215 less than the vote counted for President.

The total vote on the constitutional amendment relating to the tenure of city commissioners of the revenue was 78,617, or 57,979 less than the vote counted for President.

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facturing and distributing costs will ultimately be burdened by freight rate advances.

The recommendation of compulsory arbitration by the board gives recognition to the complicated problem which confronts the Interstate Commerce Commission by Congress to regulate freight charges. The arbitrators state that inasmuch as the railroads are under the control of the Federal and various State commissions, similar supervision should be exercised over the labor organizations of employees by the creation of wage arbitration boards, which would render strikes impossible. While the conferring of this authority would logically seem to follow from the delegation of the power to determine freight rates, the adoption of compulsory arbitration would undoubtedly be an unwise measure. It would be equally as logical to grant the railroad commissions authority to regulate issues of capital and other powers of supervision. The real intent of governmental regulation of railroads is to safeguard passenger transportation and to prevent that which is discriminatory, injurious or unreasonable. The public welfare will be best served by permitting the greatest possible freedom of action in railroad promotion, the adjustment of wage controversies, and in the general operation of the transportation industry. Minute supervision would impair the efficiency of the carriers and impose a check upon the individual initiative, which is essential to the development of much-needed transportation facilities.

## THE WILSON DEMONSTRATION.

Babies nestled in their mothers' arms—father was in line—saw last night what their fathers never saw or could barely remember—a triumph procession of the Richmond Democracy. It was a pageant that will live in the memory, oft to be described to Democrats unborn by the venerable men who come down to them from this generation. The red fire, the flaring torchlights, the shouting legions, the floats and the amusing trophies of triumph will oft be recaptured by the thousands who marched and the thousands who watched last night. It was a real Democratic demonstration, spelled with the big "D" and the little "d," for it was a great outpouring of the people of the city, the laboring men, the city employees, with Mayor Ainslie walking at their head; the clerks, the students, the professional men, the mechanics, the representatives of many nationalities—most of them ununiformed and keeping step only to the music of long-awakened victory. There was not too much formality about it; it was a homelike jubilee. It was, in a word, the kind of parade that the President-elect would have found genuine pleasure in reviewing, for he, above all, believes in the people as they are. He would have been immensely delighted at the fine representation from all sections of the city, and he would have noted with pleased smile the thunder of approval that greeted the speakers. Indeed, the entire demonstration would have warmed the cockles of his heart. It was the festival of lights over the election of a fellow Virginian to the presidency; it was an imposing pageant of popular jubilation, in which the sovereigns of Church Hill saluted the sovereigns of the West End. In the hearing of the sovereigns of South Richmond, that it had been a long time between Democratic Presidents, and here goes: "Wilson, that's all!"

## REMEMBER THE CONFEDERATE WOMEN.

The promptings of patriotic generosity should impel the people of Richmond to remember to-morrow the old women of the Confederacy now in the Home for Needy Confederate Women. It is altogether appropriate that Donation Day for that institution should come on Thanksgiving, for at such a season gratitude for the mercies and blessings of the past stir kind hearts to give others less fortunate reason to rejoice. Out of the abundance of good things that so many of us will have, surely a little can be set aside for the comfort and enjoyment of the women who spent four lonely Thanksgivings listening for the unreturning footsteps of their fathers, husbands and brothers who wore the gray.

The board of the Home for Needy Confederate Women will receive all day to-morrow the customary Thanksgiving offering from generous citizens. Contributions may be made either in money or in provisions, and the home will be most grateful for anything from a jar of homemade jelly or a bottle of pickles or a cake all the way to fowl and fish and cash and checks—and let it not be forgotten that it takes food to make bread. The public school children will give what they can to this patriotic charity; surely their elders can join them in their good works. Let us remember that these old women would be in homes of their own had not the ill fortune of war deprived them of their heroic loved ones and made the goodly estate of former possession to vanish. What better thing can we do than to make happier the fading days of the women our gallant graycoats left behind them?

## IT HAS BEEN TRIED.

A device, notes the Philadelphia Ledger, which is not new, "although not tried in this country," is about to be given a test in Sumter, S. C., where it has been decided to employ a business manager for the town, and an advertisement has been sent forth seeking the man.

This, continues the Ledger, is simply a practical application of the growing determination of the American people to have business administration of their affairs. Furthermore, it is recognized, argues our contemporary, that unstarred men cannot devote the time

necessary to engrossing business, and that time and money will be saved by employing an agent.

While the Ledger's conclusions are correct and its logic is sound, its premises, so to speak, are false. Its information is deficient. The device has been tried in this country, at Staunton, Va., and has proved eminently satisfactory.

For several years the municipal affairs of that city have been conducted by a business manager, and our information is that the change from the old, unpaid, councilmanic, cumbersome and red tape order of division of work and responsibility to that of a compensated agent has stood the test in every respect. Money and time have been saved, and the substantial citizens, the taxpayers, would not, we are told, consider going back to the old system.

Interesting, relevant and instructive in citing Staunton's experience is the fact that it involves and is illustrative of the principle of municipal government by commission, which, under the constitutional amendment touching city and town government, ratified at the last election, all Virginia cities and towns are now privileged to adopt. In her business manager, Staunton has virtually and for all practical purposes commission government vested in one commissioner.

## VESTS FOR WOMEN.

The style makers have given women a new slogan. "Vests for women" must soon be a phrase as familiar as "votes for women." The arbiters of fashion decree that the spring styles for the fairer sex must incorporate the vest as a part of the costume. One-piece and two-piece suits will be replaced by the three-piece suit, of which the vest will be the most conspicuous part.

The new garment is to be made in colors that contrast with the rest of the suit. The effect will be to give us some gorgeous and dazzling costumes. Every shade and color in thousands of combinations will be employed, and vests will prove excellent indicators of the wearer's taste and tone.

The fact that the vests will contain pockets demonstrates what inroads woman is making into the male wardrobe. To appropriate the vest is deplorable, but to seize man's immemorial sartorial convenience is unspeakable. What lacery from the vestment of the male will the progressive clothes for women movement next commit?

The grandest spectacle in the Wilson parade was President Jones, of the Southside Democratic Club, and his cabinet. Punctiliously arrayed in traditional frock coat and high hat, they presented a dignified and statesmanlike demeanor, and, unheeding the plaudits of the populace, were the "mirror of fashion and the mold of form."

The Howitzers in fancy dress had the most amusing section in the parade with their captive Bull Moose and Elephant and their cavorting donkeys.

The celebrated Gridiron Club of Washington is outdone in one way by a New York dining club. It has an unusual method and motive for selecting its guest of honor. The club members solemnly vote to choose the man who is most intensely disliked among them, even going so far as to debate upon the qualifications of candidates and to touch upon all the various personal qualities which make him the most objectionable person. Then the man who is decided to be most positively undesirable from all viewpoints is duly invited as the guest of honor at the next dinner. He is never allowed to know why he has been chosen. He is often surprised, but usually he makes a dreame speech and imagines that he has acquitted himself splendidly. The members of the club get quiet enjoyment out of the situation without revealing the unique purpose of the organization.

What a splendid thing it would be if everybody who marched in the parade last night could march in the inaugural procession!

Life in Richmond is just one excitement after another. This week the Wilson parade, the Virginia Educational Conference and the Carolina-Virginia football game, topped off with the Governors' Conference next week. There's always something doing in Richmond.

Just five more Sunday nights for the Leap Year girl.

Everybody knows which team Woodrow Wilson would root for if he could be at the Virginia-Carolina game to-morrow.

The unanimous sentiment of the school children is that the Teachers' Conference ought to last longer.

The star football player is much more of a personage in New England than elsewhere. The people of Everett, Mass., are to give a banquet in appreciation of the achievements of their distinguished fellow-citizen, Charles E. Brickley, of the victorious Harvard eleven.

Queer as it may seem, there were some people who, until they read of Harry Lehr's decision to live the rest of his life abroad, had not missed him.

Mrs. Thelma M. deBeer, aged seventy-eight, of Pretoria, Pa., is said to have married ten times in her life. She is mother and stepmother of forty-nine children and grandmother of 270. That's what the Montgomery Advertiser calls "a long and successful career."

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## The Dark Brown Taste.

A young gentleman was out riding in his automobile with his lady friend near Bridgeport, Conn., the other evening. He turned and pressed a chaste salute upon the lips of his loved one, and his car swerved and ripped down eight rods of rail fence. It cost him \$25 to have the car repaired. Moral: Don't kiss the women.

One of the pleasant sensations of this life is to see a man who has owed you \$400 for seven years drive by in an \$1,800 automobile and burn up a gallon of oil right in front of your house so that the odor will linger in your vicinity for about a week.

There are a lot of little things about in this world, but about the shiniest one is the one who borrows a dress suit and then sends it back without having it pressed.

It is getting so the men in this country don't amount to anything any more. A woman in Missouri recently traded her husband for a mule, while a Los Angeles wife has instituted a suit for divorce against her husband because he doesn't keep her stockings darned. It is time for the men to rise and demand equal rights with women.

## According to Uncle Abner.

There are a lot of little things about married life that are unexpected. Generally they are children.

A man who makes his wife believe one bit out of ten has a high batting average.

A man will laugh at a woman for her extravagance and then blow \$1.49 for 50c worth of food and buy a seegar for a quarter that contains about 7c worth of tobacco.

Always put off until to-morrow the feller who wants to do you to-day.

## Cheer Up.

I'm not afraid of hoodlums. That's very plain to see. I was born on a Friday. The thirteenth. Yep, that's me. I walk right under ladders. I spit salt at my will. I've also smashed a mirror. And I'm around here still.

Around my chair I amble. The wrong way every time. When I am playing poker, I have contempt sublime. For people superstitious. I never knock on wood. I never pick up a horseshoe. And don't see why I should.

I don't believe in bad luck. It is a foolish thing. Whatever you imagine. That's what your fate will bring. There's no use looking forward. To sorrow, you'll allow, If trouble's going to get you. 'Twill get you, anyhow.

## Voice of the People

Justice and Mercy.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir—The ease and rapidly with which a public sentiment has been built up in favor of the Carroll County murderers affords a striking example of the perils of what would be termed "mob rule" if the movement had been organized to insure their execution upon a miscarriage of justice. Instead of their delivery in violence of law. Laymen of high degree have, ex cathedra and upon ex parte statements of the convicts themselves, undertaken to nullify the solemn verdicts of juries who have heard all the evidence on both sides, and to reverse the calm judgment of courts which have given the prisoners every protection the law could afford—verdicts and judgments reached after weeks and months of patient hearing and judicial investigation. In orderly manner, by the chosen ministers of justice. The prisoners were represented by the ablest counsel that legal means could obtain, who exhausted legal learning and trained ingenuity in their behalf. Every possible exception, technical and otherwise, was made, both to the admission and to the weight, of any evidence.

## Abe Martin

Let's see, how many go to the altar 'cause they can't get no show at home. 'Tis Wilson Cabinet works don't have 't advertise for help.

## HIS THANKSGIVING DINNER.

By John T. McCutcheon.



"I'd pass they're just sitting down to dinner now."

charge those who insist on the death penalty with blood-thirstiness and cruelty. Neither charge ought to be made. The case is one in which there is room for honest difference of opinion.

For my own part—and I am sure I speak for thousands—I am convinced that this young man was led into his outrageous and reprehensible course by the influence of the older men with whom he was associated, and that a sentiment, however perverted, of filial and family loyalty, which as you well understand, is primal and controlling among the mountain people, goes far to account for his participation in the dreadful tragedy. In view of these considerations and of the fact that this man had led a clean and self-controlled life, and that this is his first offense against the law, in view of the further facts, well established during the various trials, that the whole affair was mixed with long-standing personal and political feuds and alienations, I, for one, believe that he ought not to go to the chair. I submit that in holding and expressing these views, I cannot be justly characterized as hysterical.

The dim and awful journey to the "chair" ought to be reserved for those whose crimes have been without extenuation of any kind. It is the last word of the State to the offender. In administering death the State says, in effect: "Your continued existence is a menace to society; only your death will be a sufficient deterrent to others; there is nothing to do with you but to destroy you."

Does any one who has kept track of this affair believe that this accurately states the case of this young man? But it is argued that the courts have rendered their verdict and that ought to end the matter. The Commonwealth did not let the decision of the first jury end it. It did not allow the disagreement of the second jury to end it. Three juries had to sit in this case before the verdict of first degree murder was brought in, and that fact of itself, it seems to me, ought to have some weight.

Richmond. R. H. PITT.

## Grave of Poe's Mother

Read Smith, of the English faculty at the University of South Carolina, sends to the State a press clipping which has interest for all lovers of literature, since it describes the efforts of the Raven Society of the University of Virginia to locate the grave of Elizabeth Arnold Poe, the mother of the poet. The society, largely through the diligence of S. P. Cowardin, Jr., has been able to narrow down the possible location of the spot in which lies the poet's beautiful young mother to a circle of 30 feet radius, in a corner of the burying ground of old St. John's Church, in Richmond, at Broad and Twenty-fifth Streets. It is now proposed to raise a fund wherewith to rear a suitable memorial in the centre of this circle, and the Raven Society is endeavoring to enlist the interest of Paul W. Bartlett, the sculptor who designed the Lafayette monument in

## A Dissenting Opinion.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir—You will pardon a sincere friend for saying that in your editorial, "An Appeal to Reason," published this morning, you failed to exhibit your usual fairness and discrimination. That there may be something like hysteria mixed with the tremendous and growing sentiment in Virginia for the commutation of Claude Allen's sentence is freely granted. The whole situation is poignant to the last degree, and it is not entirely creditable to our people that their sympathies should be aroused at this juncture, nor need we wonder if thus aroused they are not always held under judicial restraint.

It is, however, wholly inaccurate and unjust to intimate that all, or even a great majority of those good citizens of this Commonwealth who believe that in all the circumstances, the ends of justice would be better secured in the case of Claude Allen by a long term in the State prison than by putting him to death, are either hysterical or unreasonable. It would be quite as fair for those in favor of commutation to

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